(b) whether India is successfully and technically capable to send manned space flight;

(c) if so, whether we are planning; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE PRIME MINISTER'S OFFICE (SHRI PRITHVIRAJ CHAVAN): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) India's Geo Synchronous Satellite Launch vehicle, GSLV-Mk III, that is now under development, will have the capability to place about 10 tonne payload into Low Earth Orbit (LEO) which is sufficient for undertaking a manned space flight. However several new technologies related to life-support systems, re-entry and recovery systems, thermal manangement system, space food etc., will have to be developed. Also necessary ground systems, including those required for training astronauts, need to be established.

(c) and (d) No, Sir. However, studies are being undertaken to investigate the implication of manned space flight interms of new technologies to be developed, the infrastructure to be build, cost and possible scientific and technical gains.

Satellite images of areas of country

†3341. SHRI ANAND SHARMA:
SHRI KRIPAL PARMAR:
SHRI SANJAY RAUT:
DR. PRABHA THAKUR:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that satellite images made available by the well-known search engine "Google" under its new tool nainely "3 (three) D interface to the Planet" include Rashtrapati Bhawan, Residence of Prime Minister besides commercial airports, Navel bases, atomic establishment and other sensitive installation which can create crisis from safety point of view.

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the efforts made by Government to remove the said images from search engine of Google and result achieved therefrom?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE PRIME MINISTER'S OFFICE (SHRI PRITHVIRAJ CHAVAN): (a) and (b) M/s Google Earth has placed satellite imagery of the whole world in their website with accurate positional information along with a search engine to enable the users to have a virtual

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

tour around the world. The Google Earth pictures have a spatial resolution of generally fifteen meters and some areas have been covered with high-resolution data upto one metre resolution.

(c) The Government is fully seized of the matter and its attendant concerns. Google Earth has expressed its readiness to have discussions with the Government regarding the issue. Government has decided to constitute an expert group to address it's concerns.

Utilisation of MPLADS fund

3342. SHRI VARINDER SINGH BAJWA: Will the Minister of STATISTICS AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that funds under the Members of Parliament Local Area Development Scheme (MPLADS) are misused or remain unutilised;

(b) whether Government have received complaints in this regard;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) the reaction of Government thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF STATISTICS AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION (SHRI OSCAR FERNANDES): (a) Member of Parliament Local Area Development Scheme (MPLADS) is a continuing Scheme and is under implementation from 1993-94. MPLADS funds are released periodically and the utilisation takes place after following due procedure prescribed under MPLADS Guidelines. The District Authorities scrutinize the proposed works technically and financially and from feasibility and admissibility point of view before sanctioning such works for execution. Certain unutilised/unspent balance remain with the Nodal District Authorities. The State-wise details of cumulative release of funds, expenditure and unspent balance as on 30.11.2005 is given in the Statement-I (*See* below).

(b) and (c) Yes, Sir. Recently four complaints of misuse of MPLADS funds have been received by the Government. Action taken by the Ministry on those complaints is given in the Statement-II (*See* below).

(d) On receiving specific complaints against misuse of MPLADS funds, the matter is investigated by the Ministry or State Governments and appropriate action is taken against the officials/persons concerned.